

## NATIONAL CONSUMERS LEAGUE

1701 K Street, NW, Suite 1200 Washington, DC 20006 Main: (202) 835-3323 Fax: (202) 835-0747 www.nclnet.org

April 11, 2017

## Ex Parte Notice

Marlene H. Dortch
Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, S.W.
Room TWA325
Washington, D.C. 20554

Re: In the Matter of Empowering Consumers to Empowering Consumers to Avoid Bill Shock, CG Docket No. 10-207; Consumer Information and Disclosure, CG Docket No. 09-158

Dear Ms. Dortch:

This letter is to advise you, in accordance with Section 1.1206(b) of the Commission's rules, that on April 7, 2017, John Breyault and Brian Young of the National Consumers League (NCL)<sup>1</sup> met with Rachael Bender from Chairman Ajit Pai's office to discuss the above-captioned proceedings.

In our meeting, we briefed Ms. Bender on NCL's October 2016 filing regarding "bill shock" stemming from high International Mobile Roaming (IMR) rates<sup>2</sup> and reiterated NCL's call

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> The National Consumers League, founded in 1899, is America's pioneer consumer organization. Its mission is to protect and promote social and economic justice for consumers and workers in the United States and abroad. For more information, visit www.nclnet.org.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Comments of the National Consumers League, CG Docket No. 10-207 and CG Docket No. 09-158 (October 12, 2016). Online: https://ecfsapi.fcc.gov/file/1012336420315/NCL\_IMR\_Comments\_10122016%20(FINAL).pdf

for the Commission to refresh the record in the "bill shock" proceeding. We noted that some wireless carriers have begun to introduce more affordable IMR options. However, we also noted that these plans still amount to a significant financial burden for too many travelers. We pointed to efforts by regulators in the European Union and Gulf Cooperation Council to address IMR affordability and educate consumers about alternatives to using IMR services. In our meeting, we also discussed the lack of joint marketing agreements between U.S. and foreign wireless carriers in the context of ways to reduce IMR-related bill shock.

Should you have any questions or if you would like to discuss any other issues of importance, please do not hesitate to contact John Breyault, NCL Vice President, Public Policy, Telecommunications, and Fraud at johnb@nclnet.org or (202) 207-2819.

Respectfully,

John D. Breyault

Vice President, Public Policy, Telecommunications and Fraud

National Consumers League

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Phone: (202) 207-2819

Email: johnb@nclnet.org